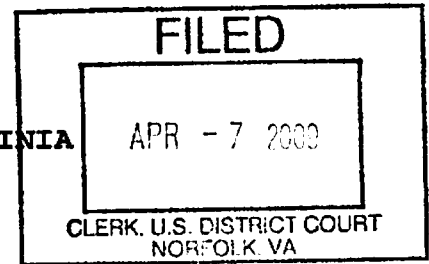


**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
Norfolk Division**



MICHAEL RAY BROWN, #369717,

Petitioner,

v.

ACTION NO. 2:08cv544

GENE M. JOHNSON, Director of the
Virginia Department of Corrections,

Respondent.

FINAL ORDER

This matter was initiated by petition for a writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2254. The petition alleges violation of federal rights pertaining to Petitioner's convictions on May 28, 2004, in the Circuit Court of the City of Norfolk, Virginia, of one (1) count of statutory burglary and one (1) count of grand larceny, as a result of which he was sentenced to serve a total of ten (10) years in prison, seven (7) years and six (6) months suspended.

The matter was referred to a United States Magistrate Judge pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) and (C), Rule 72(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Rule 72 of the Rules of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia for report and recommendation. The report of the magistrate judge was filed on March 3, 2009 recommending dismissal of the petition. By copy of the report, each party was advised of his right to file written objections to the findings and


recommendations made by the magistrate judge. On March 13, 2009, the Court received Petitioner's objections to the report and recommendation. The Court received no response from Respondent. On April 6, 2009, the Court received Petitioner's motion for voluntary dismissal without prejudice.

The Court, having reviewed the record and examined the objections filed by Petitioner to the magistrate judge's report, and having made de novo findings with respect to the portions objected to, does hereby ADOPT AND APPROVE the findings and recommendations set forth in the report of the United States Magistrate Judge filed on March 3, 2009, and it is, therefore, ORDERED that the petition be DENIED AND DISMISSED as the claims are procedurally defaulted and without merit. It is further ORDERED that judgment be entered in favor of Respondent. Petitioner's motion for voluntary dismissal without prejudice is therefore DENIED.

Petitioner may appeal from the judgment entered pursuant to this final order by filing a written notice of appeal with the Clerk of this Court, United States Courthouse, 600 Granby Street, Norfolk, Virginia 23510, within thirty (30) days from the date of entry of such judgment. Petitioner has failed to demonstrate "a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right." Therefore, the Court, pursuant to Rule 22(b) of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, declines to issue a certificate of

appealability. See Miller-El v. Cockrell, 537 U.S. 322, 335-36 (2003).

The Clerk shall mail a copy of this Final Order to Petitioner and to counsel of record for Respondent.



Jerome B. Friedman
~~United States District Judge~~
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Norfolk, Virginia

April 7, 2009